

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 038929
ORIGIN NEA-07

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R 191752Z FEB 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 038929

STADIS/////////////////////////////////
LIMDIS//FOR AMBASSADOR FROM NEA/RA PALMER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CENTO, PFOR

SUBJECT: CENTO: U.S. SUPPORT

- ,,

REF: ANKARA 1224, 1094, 616
STATE 30342, FEBRUARY 15 OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. GIVEN POSTPONEMENT OF ECONOMIC MEETING, I WILL NOT BE
ABLE TO ACQUIRE FIRSTHAND YOUR INPUTS TO CENTO ISSUES PAPER
BEFORE WE PUT IT TO THE SECRETARY IN CONNECTION WITH
BAYULKEN'S VISIT HERE. NOR IS THERE TIME TO POUCH TO YOU
OUR SHORTENED VERSION OF DRAFT HANDCARRIED BY LEDSKY. THUS
WE WOULD APPRECIATE BY THE FIRST WEEK OF MARCH A TELEGRAM
WITH YOUR SUBSTANTIVE COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT YOU HAVE.

2. WE SEE NO PROSPECT THAT DOLS. 5 MILLION REQUEST FOR
MILITARY COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM CAN BE REVIVED. DECISION
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WAS TAKEN IN CONTEXT OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S DETERMINATION
TO MOVE AWAY FROM GRANT MILITARY AID AND SPECIFICALLY TO
DESIST FROM ANY NEW PROGRAMS OF SUCH GRANT AID.

3. MOREOVER, AID HAS JUST INFORMED US THAT IT CANNOT JUSTIFY
ITS FINANCING OF DOLS. 500,000 TOWARDS UPGRADING OF MICRO-
WAVE TELECOMMUNICATION LINK IN PAKISTAN. AID'S RATIONALE

FOR THIS FINDING IS CONVINCING, BUT THIS GIVES US ANOTHER

PROBLEM VIS-A-VIS CENTO, ESPECIALLY GIVEN THE SYG'S STRONG
FEELING ON MICROWAVE PROJECT.

4. IN PRINCIPLE, ALBEIT RELUCTANTLY, AID IS WILLING TO
CONSIDER FINANCING, TOGETHER WITH CENTO PARTNERS, ALTER-
NATIVE PROJECTS WHICH WOULD MEET FAA SEC. 611 AND OTHER
CRITERIA. WOULD WELCOME URGENTLY ANY SUGGESTIONS YOU
MAY HAVE. HAS OUR AGRICULTURAL ADVISOR DEVELOPED ANY
POTENTIALLY VIABLE PROJECT IDEA? WHAT ABOUT A MAINTENANCE
FACILITY FOR CENTO SCIENTIFIC EQUIPMENT? THOUGH WE MAY
NOT BE ABLE TO MAKE ANY NEW PROJECT "COMMITMENT" AT
ECONOMIC MEETING, I THINK YOU WILL AGREE IT WOULD BE WELL
TO INDICATE POSSIBLE SUPPORT FOR SOMETHING MODEST THAT
WOULD SOFTEN THE TWO BLOWS.
HARTMAN

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Message Attributes

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